

REMARKS

The claim has been amended to call for a state machine which allows barge in. See the specification at page 5, lines 7-19. This allows the user to override whatever previous statements were said and to, in effect, reset the state machine to void the need for the machine to go through the process of analyzing the previous utterance.

Since none of the cited references allow barge in, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New claim 34 is supported by the specification at page 8, lines 4-10. It goes to the issue of grounding which, as described on page 8, lines 11-25, enables the system to operate with increased efficiency once it knows that its understanding of a spoken phrase is correct, that understanding being confirmed by actually speaking the appropriate term back to the user without objection from the user.

Respectfully submitted,



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